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DOCKET NO.: U00131.70009.US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jenkins et al.
Serial No: 10/017,475
Confirmation. No.: 5215
Filed: December 14, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
RAPIDLY STERILIZING SMALL OBJECTS

Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 2875

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 7 day of July, 2003.

Donna V. Reed
Donna V. Reed

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
- ☒ PTO Form 1449 with cited references
- ☒ International Search Report dated April 2, 2003 for PCT/US02/19147
- ☒ International Search Report dated May 8, 2003 for PCT/US02/19098
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenkins et al., Applicants

By: Randy J. Pritzker
Randy J. Pritzker, Reg. No.: 35,986
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Docket No. U00131.70009.US
Date: July 7, 2003
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TC 1700



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The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 2nd day of July, 2003.

Donna V. Reed
Donna V. Reed

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant's request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

The Applicants hereby state, as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart for this application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. No fee is required.

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PART II: Information Cited

Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed search report dated April 2, 2003 from International Application No. PCT/US02/19147 (International Filing Date 17 June 2002), and the enclosed search report dated May 8, 2003 from International Application No. PCT/US02/19098 (International Filing Date 17 June 2002).

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

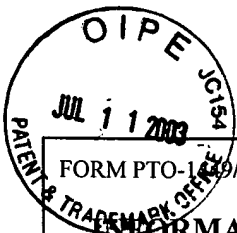
Respectfully submitted,
Jenkins et al., Applicants

By: Randy J. Pritzker
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Docket No. U00131.70009.US

Date: July 7, 2003

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FORM PTO-159/A and B (Modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICATION NO.: 10/017,475		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: U00131.70009.US	
		FILING DATE: December 14, 2001		CONFIRMATION NO.: 5215	
		APPLICANTS: Jenkins et al.			
		GROUP ART UNIT: 2875		EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
	1	4,727,868		Szycher et al.	03-01-1988
	2	4,909,254		Wilkinson.	03-20-1990
	3	5,104,392		Kittrell et al	04-14-1992
	4	5,292,312		Delk et al.	03-08-1994
	5	5,344,419		Spears	09-06-1994
	6	5,498,394		Matschke	03-12-1996
	7	5,758,660		Lokken	06-02-1998
	8	5,760,407		Margosiak et al.	06-02-1998
	9	5,871,522		Sentilles	02-16-1999

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/Country	Number	Kind Code			

OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. 10/173,137, filed June 17, 2002, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - Must provide a copy of any patent, publication, other information listed, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]

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